

Tropical Depression 26W

TD 26W began as a very large area of convection over the southern Philippines and tracked northward through the center of the country. The highest winds occurred on the periphery of the circulation, indicating a monsoon depression. A Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert was issued at 171100Z December and indicated numerous small circulations within a large area of convection. The first warning was issued at 171500Z December in the Sibuyan Sea.

TD 26W tracked west-northwestward at 12 to 16 kt and turned northward, passing over central Luzon and into the South China Sea just north of Lingayen Gulf. TD 26W failed to consolidate and intensify due to vertical shear and inflow disruption caused by the mountainous terrain of the Philippine Islands. The cyclone rapidly weakened during the transit over Luzon and the last warning was issued at 190300Z December.

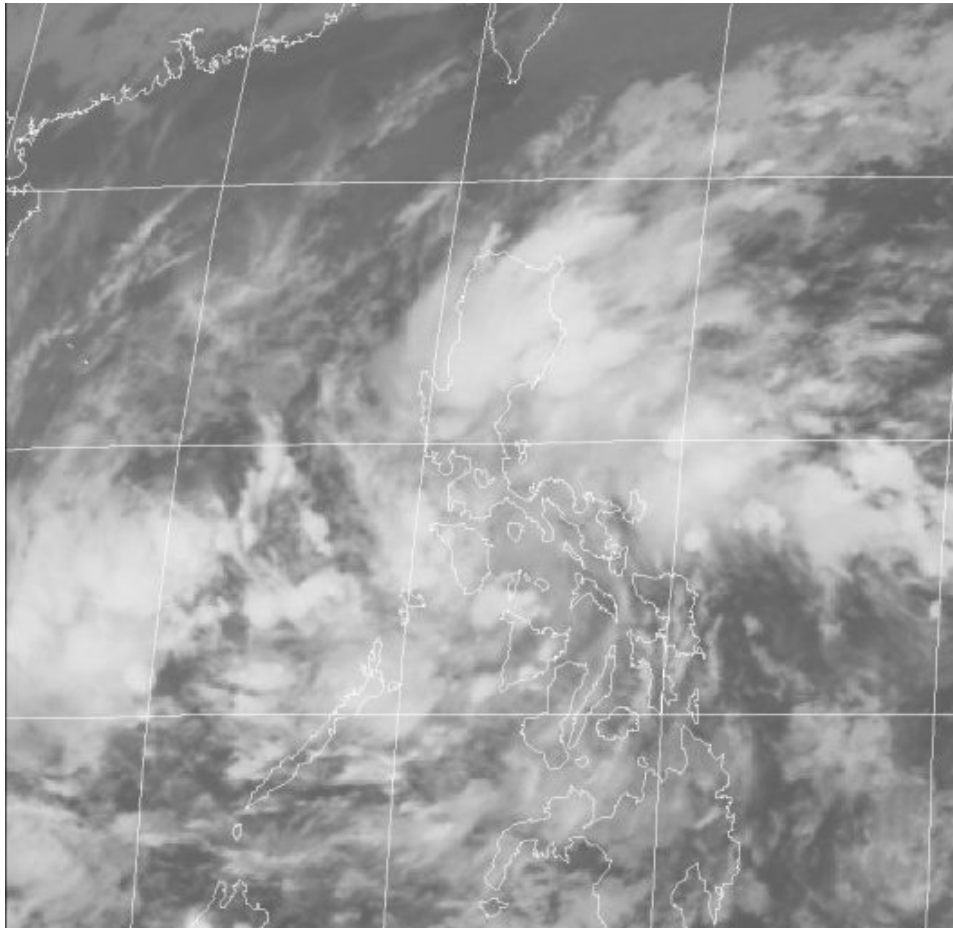


Figure 3-26-1. 171132Z December infrared satellite image with TD 26W located in the Sibuyan Sea.

